



# STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza

Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.  
*Commissioner*

Dennis P. Whalen  
*Executive Deputy Commissioner*

February 1, 2003

Dear EMS Agency:

EMS Agencies and Course Sponsors in the State of New York will be receiving copies of the 2003 version of the New York State Basic Life Support Protocols for Emergency Medical Technicians and Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians. The protocols were developed by the State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee and approved by the State EMS Council.

The new protocols have been updated to meet the current standard of care within New York State and to reflect all recent curriculum changes. These new protocols do not pertain to Certified First Responders. A separate protocol book for CFRs is in the final development stages at the State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee. Until the new CFR protocols are released, CFRs may use the new EMT/AEMT BLS protocols up to their level of training and scope of care within the State of New York. CFRs may also refer to their Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee and their agency Medical Director for clarification and advise.

The new EMT/AEMT BLS protocols will be implemented in the following manner:

1. First, all EMS agencies in New York State must update all of their NYS EMS certified personnel to the new protocols by August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 the protocols will be in use by all EMS agencies across the state. Each EMS agency will be shipped an adequate supply of protocol books for all of their certified personnel.
2. Second, all NYS EMS Course Sponsors must begin teaching the new protocols in all state certification courses testing on or after August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. Each Course Sponsor will be shipped an adequate supply of protocol books. All NYS Written Certification Exams will reflect the new protocol changes beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

These new protocols will come in 8 ½ x 11 inch paper, three whole punched, and in a plastic shrink wrapped package. EMS services should maintain a copy in a binder so it is available to their personnel. Each protocol is printed on a separate removable sheet of paper so that future protocol changes can be easily updated in your binder. The entire protocol book, as well as all future updates to the protocols, will be available on our web site at <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/ems/main.htm>. Please check our web site regularly for any updates to the protocols and other Bureau of EMS documents.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our Education Unit at (518) 402-0996, ext. 1, 4 or call your Regional DOH EMS Representative.

Sincerely,

Edward Wronski, Director  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services